

**Antiquities and Monuments Office's Comments on
the Heritage Impact Assessment in respect of
the West Wing of the Former Central Government Offices in Central**

The Antiquities and Monuments Office (AMO) has reviewed the findings detailed in the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) report in respect of West Wing of the former Central Government Offices (CGO West Wing) in Central and has the following comments:

- (a) We note that the proposal has preserved all key character defining elements of the building and adopted the principles of minimum intervention and reversibility so that changes / disturbance to the historic building would be kept to the minimum. As such, the proposal is agreeable from the heritage conservation perspective;
- (b) We note that the later added lift core, lobby and carport at the East end as well as the clinic enclosure on 7/F will be demolished. This approach is commendable as it can re-expose the original elevation of the historic building;
- (c) The proposal to create a publicly-accessible corridor at the projecting window on 7/F is considered an enhancement to the project, as it can improve the public access by connecting the new lift to the 7/F of the historic building;
- (d) We note that the intrusive building services installations on the flat roof and mounted at the external wall will be removed and relocated to a less conspicuous location in an organised manner. This arrangement will minimise the visual impact to the historic building;
- (e) We note that a green roof and non-reflective solar panels will be erected with no excessive loading. The proposed works can enhance the greenery space and improve the building environment, which is commendable; and
- (f) We note that cartographic and photographic surveys will be conducted to ensure proper documentation of the existing features

of the site. A set of the records will be sent to the AMO for keeping.

- (g) In addition to the mitigation measures devised in the HIA report, we would like to propose the following for further enhancement:
 - (i) Structural monitoring should be carried out and the proposal should be submitted to the AMO for comment and to the satisfaction of the AMO;
 - (ii) Any new openings for building services facilities should be located in less prominent locations of the buildings so as to avoid adverse visual impact. The design should be submitted to the AMO for comment and to the satisfaction of the AMO; and
 - (iii) To ensure that the mitigation measures recommended in the HIA report are properly implemented, a heritage consultant should be appointed by the project proponent to monitor the implementation of the mitigation measures and record any changes and variations. Progress reports should be compiled by the heritage consultant and sent to the AMO for noting and action as appropriate.

Antiquities and Monuments Office
Leisure and Cultural Services Department
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